



**Open Space Committee  
Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room  
Minutes**

Thursday, March 28, 2019, 7:30pm

**Present:** Ann LeRoy, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Kelsey Cowen, Brian Kelder, John Pickle, Wendy Richter, David White,

**Absent:** Shirley Canniff, Teresa DeBenedictis, Emily Sullivan

**Minutes:** The notes of the February 28, 2019 and minutes of the January 24, 2019 meetings were accepted with minor revisions. **Note:** A quorum of OSC members was not present at the February 28 meeting.

**OSC Administration/Communications:**

Ann reported that the Committee's budget line item will go to Town Meeting for approval as part of the fiscal year 2020 Committees and Commissions Appropriation.

Kelsey and Brian reported that they had not found anyone who could grant them access to the "Experiencing Arlington's Open Spaces" section of the website to update the information on Magnolia and Robbins Farm Parks. Ann will ask Emily to assist with access and Elisabeth will prompt the Friends of Robbins Farm Park to supply new photos.

Ann reported that OSC held an information session on March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Fox Library to inform residents and answer questions about open space in Town as part of the "What's Up Arlington" series. She was joined by John, Elisabeth and Kelsey.

**Open Space and Recreation Plan (2015-2022):**

Ann reported that Emily would like to the ability to access the Google drive tracking of Town projects, actions and accomplishments. Wendy and Brian will handle her invitation and introduction to the documents.

Emily and Ann are planning to attend the 2019 MA Open Space Conference to learn more about funding opportunities for a consultant on the 2022 update to the Open Space and Recreation Plan. They will also make a presentation about Arlington's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program and the grant awarded to the town for flood management work at Wellington Park. The program will cover how the project has influenced the Open Space and Hazard Mitigation Plan updates and the Conservation Commission's inclusion of climate change resilience in local regulations.

**Take-A-Walk/Connecting Arlington's Open Spaces:**

Wendy, David and Elisabeth met to review and propose a set of final revisions for the updated walking map printouts from Adam Kurowski. Wendy and Kelsey will meet with Adam next week to go over the revisions.

The Town-wide map of the Walking Routes is accessible online. The printable pdf maps of the different routes can be made available when finalized. (QR codes and dates need to be provided.) None of these materials are linked to the OSC page on the Town's website yet.

The OSC's walk for the Eco-Week activities is scheduled on Wednesday, April 24 from 4 to 6PM. It will be hosted by Ann and David and will cover Wellington Park, the Mill Brook, The Reservoir and Mount Gilboa.

**Picture Post:** John reported that the project's website hosting will move from UNH to the U of Oklahoma. New Picture Posts are planned for Magnolia Community Garden, Robbins Farm Garden and possibly Spy Pond Park this year after the Committee's funds become available July 1<sup>st</sup>. John will also be conducting a drop-in Sundial project as part of the Town's Eco-Week activities on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10AM – 2 PM on the Whittemore House lawn.

**CPA Project Updates:**

The MyRWA/Town project at Wellington Park/Mill Brook has completed phase 1 for design and assessment work. The next phase will be funded through CDGB if approved at Town Meeting. The related MVP flood control aspect of the project with state funding is proceeding, but the bid for design and implementation was over budget, so the Town is working on cost reductions to compete the project as required by June 30. This project also will be highlighted at an Eco-Week event on Tuesday, April 23.

Other 2019-2020 Open Space CPA projects (Arlington Reservoir, Hardy School Playground) are moving forward. New projects for FY2020-2021 will be presented to Town Meeting for approval in May.

Elisabeth contacted the DPW Director about plans for the connection between Wellington Park and the High School in the Public Works project. He responded that he will know more in a few weeks.

Minutes submitted by Elisabeth Carr-Jones

**Upcoming Meeting Dates:** April 25, May 23, June 27